



## NH Integrated Pest Management Newsletter

April 6, 2005

Volume XI

No. 1

### No Hard Copies Mailed Yet!!

We discovered that the hard drive failure a few months ago wiped out the mailing list for this newsletter. The only backup we can find is quite old, so not very useful. Rather than delay this for the folks who get it online, I decided to go ahead with this first issue. We are still working on finding or rebuilding the list. If we fail, we'll start from scratch again. If you want to receive a hard copy in the mail, send your request and address to Cheryl Estabrooke, 117 Spaulding Hall, UNH, Durham NH 03824. Her telephone number is 862-3200.

### Apple Injury Descriptions & Photos

I have written descriptions of various types of injury that we see on NH apples (frost, deficiencies, pest injury) and have scanned about 60 of my photos that illustrate what I describe. We are working out the last problems to have it reside on the IPM page of the UNH Cooperative Extension website. Take a look, tell me what you think of it, and if it is helpful. If response is favorable, I'll add more in the future, possibly also on other crops. Where I go depends on your reactions and what slides I have. By the way, I have about 8000 slides as candidates for scanning.

### NH Indar Use Approved on Blueberry

George Hamilton and Becky Grube worked on another section 18 registration for

mummyberry control on blueberry. Becky submitted the packet to EPA a while back, and we recently heard that it was approved. Here are the details:

The product approved is Indar 75WSP. Minimum days to harvest interval is 30. There is a maximum of 5 applications over the season, and this registration expires August 31<sup>st</sup>. EPA requires that we report how many applications and pounds get used in NH, and how many acres we treat. That means if you use Indar on blueberry this year, be certain to report what you use at the end of the season. In order to get the report assembled on time, Dr. Grube needs your information before October 15. It is up to us to accurately report what we use, or EPA may not approve future section 18 registration requests.

By the way, **Orbit is NOT legal** for use on blueberry in New Hampshire.

The most effective mummyberry management program incorporates cultural methods as well as fungicides. I can think of two effective ones: 1) cover the mummies with a new 2" thick layer of mulch before blueberry bud break 2) rake and destroy the fungal stipes growing from the mummies. Raking in early spring just as the brown spike of fungal tissue emerges from the mummy is good timing. Sometimes we suggest using a mummyberry "garden" to monitor this. It's too late to start one this spring; you do it in summer and mark it well.

You can also use a urea application to burn the freshly emerging fungal stipes before they can release spores to infect the plant. Do we call this a chemical approach?

### **Apple Growers: Are You Ready for Green Pug Moth?**

Last spring we had several growers experience significant injury from this relatively new pest. By the time they realized they had a problem, it was too late. GPM's are gray moths with a slightly greenish cast. They fly in June, and lay eggs that sit there all summer, and hatch next spring, about the time of bud break. The caterpillars are yellowish green, and when fully grown, reach about ½ inch long. Some of them develop a dark red-brown line down the center of the back. They especially prefer to feed on opening blossom buds, and prefer flower anthers. They complete development by the time of petal fall, and pupate. If you look for them at petal fall, they will have "disappeared".

Last year, a few growers noticed that flowers didn't look right. Close examination showed little or no damage to petals, but anthers and stamens were missing, and pellets of frass suggested insects as the cause. By then, it was too late to do anything.

If you suspect you had a problem last year, it would be a good idea to check this year. You could look at the buds in early pink, or pre-pink stage. If you find tiny yellow-green caterpillars, it might be worthwhile to consider treatment. The threshold in Nova Scotia (where they have more experience with this European import) is 6 or more larvae per 100 fruit clusters.

A quick way to see if they might be around is to spread a white cloth or plastic sheet under a limb, and give it a couple of sharp hits. Some of the caterpillars will fall to the ground, onto the sheet, where they are easy to see. If you do this at pink stage, you aren't likely to dislodge petals. If you find some small green inchworms, you might then do a count.

There are plenty of insecticides that can control GPM, but the key is to treat before blossoms open, to prevent injury to flowers and pollinators.

### **Traps To Monitor Apple Pests**

Great Lakes IPM is the only supplier (that I can find) for tarnished plant bug traps and spotted tentiform/apple blotch leafminer traps. The address is 10220 Church Rd, NE Vestaburg, MI 48891. Telephone numbers are : 989-268-5693, and -5911. Their FAX is 989-268-5311 and email address is [glipm@nethawk.com](mailto:glipm@nethawk.com) They also have a website, located at [www.greatlakesipm.com](http://www.greatlakesipm.com) In addition to the above traps, they have apple maggot traps, tanglefoot, and many other supplies (lenses, nets, etc.) I have been dealing with GLIPM for many years, and have been very happy with them. Any veggie growers out there? Traps for pepper weevil, fall armyworm, and other species are there as well. I also get my (greenhouse) yellow sticky cards there. <http://www.gemplers.com>

### **When and How To Set Out TPB Traps In Your Orchard**

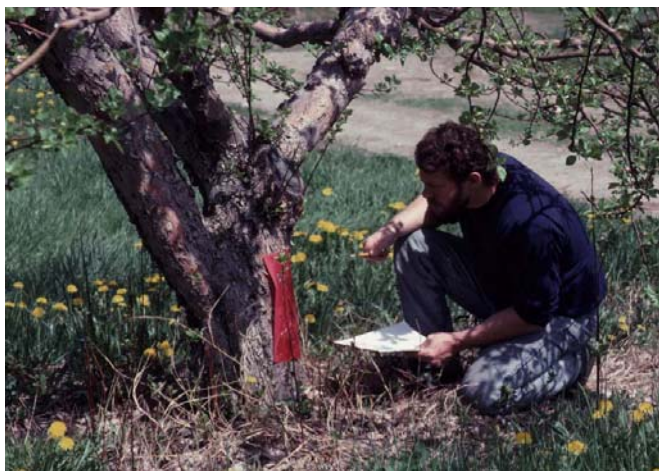
TPB traps go up early, usually at the time of silver tip. In order to be effective, they must be hung properly. They are hung toward the tips of a low branch, at knee height, over a grassy (**not**



**bare!)** part of the orchard floor. In case this is new to someone, I'll repeat that these are to monitor TPB numbers, not serve as controls.

### **Leafminer Traps in Apples**

Using leafminer traps can be a good idea. We know little about winter mortality of leafminers, so the number that you had last year doesn't necessarily predict what you'll experience this year. STLM and ABLM are both resistant to the organo-phosphate insecticides that we have used successfully for many years for plum curculio and other apple pests. That means we have to rely on other materials to control them. When properly used, the red sticky rectangle traps are very good predictors of leafminer problems. They give you a reading of the situation early, when you have time to consider your options. Here's how you use them:



Attach the traps to the south or southeast side of the tree trunk, at knee height. This should be before the apple flower buds have reached the 1/4 inch green stage. I usually use large push pins in each corner, but some people use a staple gun. I wouldn't do just one. I'd set out two or more in each block you raise. In the next issue, I'll include a photo of the adult moths, which stand out pretty well against the dark red trap.

By the way, these leafminers are very rarely a problem in organic orchards. There the parasites and predators keep them from getting too numerous to cause problems.

### **New Hampshire Fruit Pest Update Telephone**

This will be the 26<sup>th</sup> year (I think!) for NHFPU. The telephone number is unchanged: 862-3763. I plan to record a new message every Tuesday. I usually keep it under three minutes, but occasionally record longer messages if there is a lot going on. I include information on pest situation, crop development, and upcoming meetings. Tree fruit get most of the attention, but I also include quite a bit on pests of strawberry, raspberry and blueberry. Occasionally I'll have stuff on grape pests. You can call the number any time day or night, from April 1<sup>st</sup> until about September 15. I recorded the first message for this year on April 4<sup>th</sup>. It's waiting for you!

**Alan T. Eaton**  
**Extension Specialist**  
**Integrated Pest Management**